

5. NORTH NEW BRIGHTON DUNES - UPDATE

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The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on progress to date on investigating/gathering information in respect of the North New Brighton dunes project.

BACKGROUND

The Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee at its meeting on 11 December 2003 passed a series of recommendations in relation to the dunes project, which are listed below:

- "1. That provision be made in the six monthly review for the sum of \$78,000 required for research/gathering of information in respect of the North New Brighton dunes project.*
- 2. That a forum be established between the Coastal Image Group and Supporters of a Natural Dune System (SANDS) to secure acceptance of common ground with this project.*
- 3. That a copy of the above report be sent to the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board and the Board advised of the above recommendation."*

Progress to date on recommendations 1 and 2 has been mostly been focused on confirming the scope of investigations and further research while the six monthly review funding was confirmed. Now that funding is in place the "on the ground" investigations which were outlined in the December 2003 report can be initiated.

LAND TENURE/SURVEY

The clarification of coastal land status issues has begun with discussions currently underway with between the Council and other agencies regarding land at the Waimakariri river mouth.

The North New Brighton site specific land tenure investigations are now able to be progressed with the confirmation of resources through the six monthly review process.

RECREATION SURVEY

As recommended in the first report on the North New Brighton Dunes (August 2003), a recreational needs analysis has been included on the list of possible joint venture topics between Lincoln University and the Council. At this time, however, the main focus of this group's resources is area planning in south-west Christchurch and as such no progress has been made looking at coastal recreation needs.

However, a consultant has been approached to undertake the proposed survey work and can now be engaged given that resources have become available.

COASTAL DATA ANALYSIS AND MODELLING

Discussions between the Council and the University of Canterbury, Crown Research Institutes and consultants on the type, scope and specifics of the coastal research needed for this project have been on going. Progressing this work to tender stage is now possible as resources are available.

There have also been some preliminary discussions with Environment Canterbury about the possibilities of sharing the costs of the coastal investigations.

ECOLOGICAL SURVEY

This part of the research has not been progressed any further at this stage as the need for it is dependent on the outcomes of the coastal modelling. It is, however, being included in work programmes to happen as resources become available.

FORUM BETWEEN COASTAL IMAGE GROUP AND SUPPORTERS OF A NATURAL DUNE SYSTEM

Initial discussions have been held with both groups who have agreed to participate in a forum to look at their particular visions for the dunes in the North New Brighton area.

The Greenspace Area Advocate has agreed to facilitate the forum and staff are currently working through with both groups an agenda and format for the initial meeting. It is estimated the first meeting not take place until late March due to the unavailability of one of the groups.

CONCLUSION

A variety of different research and investigation projects are necessary as part of the North New Brighton dunes project.

The timelines for these projects are dependent on a variety of factors including availability of consultants, the possible need to obtain resource consents for certain aspects of the coastal modelling investigations and having the appropriate coastal conditions during monitoring. Given that proviso, an estimated timeline on the works is outlined below:

2004	Land tenure/survey	Recreation survey	Coastal analysis	Ecological survey	Forum
February		Project brief			
March	Project brief		Project		
April	Land tenure	Survey	brief and		
May			tender		
June		and			
July	Land				
August	ownership	analysis		Project brief	
September	resolution				
October					
November					
December					
January					
February					

Chairman's Recommendation: That the information be received.